

MICHELE GUYTON
Legislative District 42B
Baltimore County

Environment and Transportation
Committee



The Maryland House of Delegates
6 Bladen Street, Room 304
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3793 · 301-858-3793
800-492-7122 Ext. 3793
Michele.Guyton@house.state.md.us

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

FAVORABLE

HB456 – Pharmacies-Prescription Drugs-Accessible Labels for Blind, Visually Impaired, and Print Disabled Individuals

March 1, 2023

Dear Madame Chair and Members of the Health and Government Operations Committee,

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of HB456 to require pharmacies to provide notice to customers of the availability of accessible labels for visually impaired for prescription drugs. This bill also requires pharmacies to print the label upon request. For a blind or visually impaired customer, the lack of accessible labelling may actually lead to illness or even death. There are many different types of prescription label readers available at no cost to pharmacies and to customers. They range from actual stands on which the bottle can be placed, to apps that may be downloaded onto smartphones. Some pharmacy brands actually advertise their widespread availability. It turns out, however, that pharmacies willing to print the labels are not as widely spread as they would like customers to believe. In addition, many customers are not aware that they can request these services.

I ask for your favorable report on HB456 that requires pharmacies to advise customers that these readers are available and print them upon request. Pharmacies must also explain the available options and demonstrate the use of the device to the customer.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Delegate Michele Guyton".

Delegate Michele Guyton D42B